which has been declared as a Restricted Area under Foreigners (Restricted Areas) Order, 1963, continues as such.

(c) and (b) In view of its tourist potential Foreign tourists in groups sponsored by the recognised Indian travel agencies are permitted to visit Shillong in Meghalaya subject to certain conditions prescribed in this regard.

Announcement of a New Newsprint Policy

1650. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) when the newsprint policy was announced last;

(b) since when the announcement of a new newsprint policy has become due;

(c) what are the reasons for delay in announcing the policy; and

(d) by when it is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (d) Newsprint Allocation Policy was earlier announced on annual basis and the policy for the year 1984-85 was announced on 21st July, 1984. The Policy for 1985-86 could not be announced as entire gamut of distribution of newsprint with a view to removing certain lacunae engaged the attention of the Government. The matter has since been finalised and the Policy applicable for the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 was announced in the Lok Sabha on 13-11-1986 and in Rajya Sabha on 17-11-1986.

Collaboration with Natherlands in the sale and manufacture of telecommunications equipment

1651. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Netherlands Government has offered to cooperate in the sale and the licenced production of equipment with co-operation in common research activities, exchange of technologies and shared training facilities so far to enable India to achieve greater self-reliance in telecommunications;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard; and

(c) what is the present state of the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) In the Third Meeting of the Indo-Netherlands Joint Commission in April, 1986, held in Delhi, it was agreed by both sides that excellent scope exists between the two countries to increase cooperation in the field of Telecommunications. Netherlands side has offered technical cooperation and assistance in the areas of Network Development and Planning, Rural Telecom Development and Research & Development.

(b) and (c) These proposals are under the consideration of Government.

Indian request for co-operation in nuclear safety

1652. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has reiterated that the nuclear plants around the world are not safe and has urged for greater cooperation, especially between developing and developed nations on unclear safety, as reported in the Indian Express of 13th October, 1986; and

(b) if so, what further steps Government of India proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) No, Sir.